



Lawrence W. Mitchell

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Lawrence W. Mitchell serves as Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) and serves as Deputy Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation. As Deputy Administrator, he is responsible for converting farm program legislation into working policies and procedures that regulate the delivery of FSA's conservation and commodity programs. Programs within his area of responsibility include the Conservation Reserve Program, production flexibility contracts, commodity and livestock disaster programs, marketing assistance loan programs, and the tobacco and peanut programs. Direct payments and loans to farmers and ranchers under these programs exceed \$11 billion annually.

Mitchell previously served as FSA's Director of the Legislative Liaison Staff and a Confidential Assistant to the FSA Administrator.

Prior to working with FSA, Mr. Mitchell served as Vice President of Government Relations for the National Farmers Union (NFU) in Washington, D.C. His primary duties were serving as Chief Administrator of NFU's Washington office and as their head government relations representative. His areas of responsibility were crops, taxes, aging, farm credit, banking, trade and the futures market.

Mr. Mitchell has also served in the following positions: Independent Policy Consultant and Writer (1993); Director of Federal and State Relations, American Agriculture Movement (1989-1993); Editor, American Agriculture Movement Reporter, Washington, D.C. (1989-1993); Farmer (1971-1989).

Mr. Mitchell grew up on a fifth generation family farm operation. He graduated from Arlington (Texas) High School in 1974. In 1978 he obtained a B.S. degree in Plant and Soil Science from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas.

He is or has been a member of a number of organizations--Alternate to the Board of Oversees, CARE; the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; National Association of Farmer Elected Committeemen; Vice President, American Agriculture Movement of Texas, Inc.; Texas Farmers Union; Regional Coordinator, Farm Aid's Farm and Ranch Congress. Mr. Mitchell has been an advocate for small businessmen, farmers and rural citizens on the local, State and national levels from 1985 to present on issues concerning production agriculture, private property rights, taxes, banking regulations, environmental protection, health care, and others.